

From: pereira@wt6.usdoj.gov@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 2:42pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Ms. Hesse:

I must object to the agreement you have reached with Microsoft. As I understand it, your agreement will still force consumers to purchase only computers with Microsoft's operating systems. Being forced into purchasing something you do not want is my biggest beef with the way Microsoft has done business, and, as I understood, is a principal reason for your legal action.

As a minimum, any sensible agreement should ensure that, in purchasing a computer, you can specify the operating system you want that computer to run. Then, the price of the operating system should be charged explicitly.

So, if Microsoft charges a computer maker (say, Dell) \$ 25 for Windows XP (as an example), I should pay Dell \$ 25 to give to Microsoft, \$ 5 for their profit (whatever), and \$ 10 for installing the OS (or something: installing costs time).

Then, if I want Linux, I should pay Dell \$ 10 for installing Linux. And, if I prefer to do that myself, I save \$ 10.

You can do it this way with memory, with extra disks, etc. Why not with the OS? Only because of anti-competitive behavior of Microsoft.

Isn't this the type of thing you wanted to address with your lawsuit?

Sincerely,

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